<u>CNS News</u> <u>reports today</u> on the National Taxpayers Union's (NTU) ratings of legislators' voting records.

Republicans, meanwhile, scored much higher than their majority counterparts, with an average score of 57 percent in the Senate and 65 percent in the House - compared with Democrats' respective 8 percent and 11 percent.

House GOP leaders Reps. John Boehner (R-Ohio), Eric Cantor (R-Va.), Paul Ryan (R-Wisc.), and Mike Pence (R-Ind.) all scored above 75 percent.

"Given today's economic climate, fiscal discipline is more important now than ever," NTU President Duane Parde said.

"Fortunately, taxpayers have a staunch ally in Congressman Mike Pence, to whom National Taxpayers Union is proud to present a 'Taxpayers' Friend Award."

posted by Pence Press Office # 9:51 AM

"Ending the tyranny of big-spending politicians"

The Investor's Business Daily published an editorial yesterday afternoon declaring

What the tea parties aim to accomplish is really a much taller order than gaining independence from a tyrannical monarch and far-away parliament two centuries ago.

They are trying to persuade Congress and the states to reject what comes perfectly naturally to them: the opportunity to fritter away a fortune in other people's money, and the idea that we should spend our way out of this economic downturn.

That is not the tried-and-true means of lifting ourselves out of distress. When America suffered the worst recession since the Great Depression at the beginning of Ronald Reagan's first term of office more than a quarter-century ago, the president spurred Congress to cut income taxes across the board.

In his syndicated column, Cal Thomas also writes about the upcoming Tea Party protests:

Governments never have enough of our money and they'll never ask if we have enough. Whatever they do is sold as noble, even righteous and if the people rebel, they are uncaring and greedy. The cry at these tea parties should be "not a penny more" until governments get

their houses in order, just as we must do. Most people have been forced to reduce spending during the recession, but not the federal government, and likely not the government in your home state.